



Frying Pan Farm Park is a fully operational farm, growing vegetables and raising livestock, including chickens and goats.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2016-2017

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome to Fairfax County

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



Northern Virginia Community College are located just down the road for affordable higher education opportunities in many different subject fields. Our business-friendly economy ensures career opportunities for both our older and younger residents.

Welcome to Fairfax County, one of the greatest places in the nation to live, work, play and raise a family. Fairfax County is home to a thriving business community, vibrant entertainment and shopping destinations, a world class university, beautiful parks, and a diverse population of engaged residents. Whether you are a long-time resident or are new to the county, I hope you'll take some time to visit some of our most popular spots to enjoy what Fairfax County has to offer.

Tysons Corner and Fair Oaks Malls, Reston Town Center, Fairfax Corner, Springfield Town Center and the Mosaic District are great places to shop, eat and spend time with friends. For cultural destinations, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts are two of my favorites. And for enjoying the arts along with community gatherings like Springfest and Brewfest, the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton is a must. For fresh air and exercise, I recommend our extensive network of trails, parks and RECenters.

While there are a lot of fun things to do in Fairfax County, our community is notorious for our "work hard, play hard" ethic. Time Magazine has described us as the epicenter of the Washington region's job boom and one of the great economic success stories of our time. Fairfax County is home to eight Fortune 500 company headquarters, more than 8,400 technology firms, and over 116.2 million square feet of office space.

Fairfax County has one of the best public school systems nationwide with a graduation rate topping 90 percent. Our school system is the 10th largest in the country with nearly 187,000 students and 196 schools and centers. After high school graduation, George Mason University and

On the local government level, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is constantly hard at work to ensure quality public services for our residents. Our 10-member Board of Supervisors strives to maintain positive community engagement, while strategically planning for the future with land use and infrastructure decisions.

Some recent accomplishments include updating many of our police policies, establishing a Diversion First program for people with mental illness who become involved with law enforcement, and successfully extending Metrorail to Tysons and Reston, with Phase 2 of the Silver Line currently under construction all the way to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun County.

Fairfax County offers opportunity and quality services for residents of all ages. People from all over the globe have made Fairfax County their home, enriching our community with their diverse cultures and entrepreneurship. Please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov or www.fxva.com to learn more about what Fairfax County has to offer you and your family.

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by Fairfax County residents. My office is here to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or give my office a call at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova Byline newsletter that will keep you up-to-date on what is happening in your community! Welcome to your new home.

County Schools: Teaching for 21st Century

What's new at Fairfax County Public Schools.

BY DR. KAREN K. GARZA
SUPERINTENDENT, FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

different ways to design instructional practices to support the development of these essential skills.

We are also working to define contemporary teaching and learning practices while better integrating technology. For



Welcome to the 2016-17 school year in Fairfax County Public Schools.

With each new school year, we have the wonderful opportunity to build upon our previous successes and continue to improve our work with our students.

We are continuing to look to our Portrait of a Graduate and our strategic plan in shaping our future work. Our most pressing challenge is making this vision a reality for every child in our system. How do we refine what we do to ensure that all of our students graduate well-prepared for this rapidly changing world? We acknowledge that this is a daunting challenge, but there is no school system in the United States more well-prepared and well-equipped to effectively respond to these important issues.

The goals of education can no longer simply be to provide the basic literacy skills for the majority of the students, while reserving the teaching of skills for higher order 21st century thinking for a select few. As we learn more about the skills our students will need for success in this changing world, we recognize the need to innovate — to consider new and

example, through a pilot program we are calling FCPSOn — this year we begin evaluating how digital resources can best scaffold that model — and how we provide teachers and students with the tools and policies needed to facilitate the use of that

technology.

One change you will see this school year is a new central website and a new FCPS logo. Our new website will better serve everyone — it is mobile responsive, features more modern design — and search will work. As we modernized our website, we also believed it was time to reimagine the FCPS logo. While the previous logo has served us well for 40 years, we heard from many that it was time to transform our logo to one reflective of who we are now and who we aspire to be in the years to come.

Our new logo includes a tie to our legacy, while representing our role as a catalyst — sparking curiosity, learning and excellence for our students, employees and community.

I wish all students, teachers, parents and the entire FCPS community a very successful and fulfilling school year in FCPS where all are engaged, inspired, and thrive.

'Insider's Tip' to New Businesses

Fairfax County Economic Development Authority helps in starting or expanding business in the county.

BY GERALD L. GORDON
PRESIDENT AND CEO, FAIRFAX COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

If you are new to Fairfax County, welcome to one of the world's most interesting places to live and work. If you are new to the county and are interested in being part of our dynamic business community, here is an "insider's tip" that you will want to know: The Fairfax County Economic Development Authority

(FCEDA), works with everyone who wants to start or expand a business in the county.

For aspiring entrepreneurs, we host "Entrepreneurship 101: Starting a Business in Fairfax County" workshops almost every month. Some 4,000 people have attended one of these workshops since 2003 and you will find a wealth of local, state and federal resources to help you map out starting a business here. If you need office space, the FCEDA helps businesses find the office space they need so they can grow in the county.

We have a complete database of office space options in every part of the county, and we can help you navigate that process so you become an established part of the business community.

Why do we do this? The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors charged the FCEDA with building a business community — help companies create jobs and fill office space — to build the commercial tax base. This generates revenue that the Board of Super-



COURTESY PHOTO
**Gerald L.
Gordon, Ph.D.**

visors uses to fund the full range of high-quality public services for which Fairfax County is well-known. Building the commercial tax base means that residents don't have to pick up all the costs of providing those services.

The FCEDA has been working for more than 50 years with entrepreneurs and owners of businesses of every size to enlarge the commercial tax base and make the Fairfax County economy one of the strongest anywhere. Visit www.fairfaxcountyyeda.org to see how the Economic Development Authority can help you.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The way it used to be: Frying Pan Barn.



Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill)

Everyone Counts in Hunter Mill

BY SUPERVISOR CATHERINE M. HUDGINS
(D-HUNTER MILL)

Every good community stems from those who work hard to make the community the best version of itself. From the youngest to oldest volunteers, to police officers and public officials, the Hunter Mill District is full of citizens contributing to the community in order to make it the best place to live. As a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS), my job is to ensure the wellbeing of the community through listening and informing constituents on what affects them in our community. In doing so, I strive to reflect the community voice in making policy, creating a diverse, prosperous place with affordable housing and equal opportunity for all. The goal of the Hunter Mill District office is to keep everyone in the know by providing events for the public to become involved within the community: First Wednesday sessions with the Supervisor at the Reston Regional Library or Vienna's Patrick Henry Library, to the Frying Pan Park concert series "Hunter Mill Melodies" and children events.

The Hunter Mill District has something for everyone. It includes all unincorporated Reston, the northern portion of Tysons, the Town of Vienna and the communities of Herndon and Oak Hill, with top tier parks, trails, restaurants, retailers, businesses and employment opportunities. One can visit Frying Pan Park, a working farm since 1930, now home to farm animals, a carousel, nature center, and tractor rides. A Metro ride from Wiehle-Metro East Station, or a drive, is Tysons, a bustling new city with shopping and restaurant area with a movie theatre and a skating rink in the winter. If you're feeling up for exercise, ride a bike or walk along the Washington and Old Dominion Trail, which stretches forty five miles all the way to Purcellville. The soon arrival of Phase II Metro brings transit service to all sides of Hunter Mill District. The District is most proud to be part of one of the best public education systems in the country, including higher education opportunities at Northern Virginia Community College and Marymount University. Spring, fall, winter or summer, there is always something to do in the Hunter



Lake Fairfax

Mill District.

Opportunities for citizen involvement are numerous, serving on Boards, Authorities and Commission to the BOS or task force studies, internship placements at the Hunter Mill District office to volunteering at events, or creating art displays. You can even find meeting space by reserving the North County Government Center community room for personal use with the link <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/communityroom.htm>.

It is important to stay up to date on the news and events occurring in the Hunter Mill District. Whether upcoming events and news from the Supervisor, advisories, community updates or Snow Alerts, subscribe to the monthly Hunter Mill District Newsletter and get it all. If you have any questions or want to enroll for the newsletter, contact huntermill@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-478-0283.

About the Connection

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Oak Hill/Herndon Connection's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to try to make sense of what is happening in your community, to gather information about the best things in and around your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an updated version of our award-winning Insider's Guide to the Parks, plus details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an email or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque,

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synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

Your community Connection newspaper is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

— MARY KIMM.

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[@MARYKIMM](http://WWW.TWITTER.COM/MARYKIMM)

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Herndon Area Nonprofits: Making Community Work

Cornerstones formerly Reston Interfaith

Cornerstones helps those that are homeless and struggling in Northern Virginia to build more stable lives by connecting them to vital resources that solve their needs for housing, child care, food or financial assistance. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program and the Thanksgiving Food Drive. 571-323-9555 or www.cornerstonesva.org/.

Council for the Arts of Herndon

The Council for the Arts of Herndon is the Town of Herndon's officially designated local arts agency. CAH is a private, not-for-profit charitable organization supported by citizens, businesses and the public sector including the Town of Herndon and the Arts Council of Fairfax County. www.herndonarts.org.

Herndon-Reston FISH

FISH: Friendly Immediate Sympathetic Help. A volunteer, non-sectarian, nonprofit dedicated to helping local residents through short-term crises. Seeking general volunteers or monetary donations. Profits from The Bargain Loft, a thrift store located at 336 Victory Drive, Herndon support FISH. Call 571-267-2980 assistance line or visit <http://herndonrestonfish.org>.

Touching Heart

Touching Heart is an organization that encourages children to act with love and compassion to combat bullying and in-school violence. They provide children with the opportunity to plan their own fundraising events and support organizations including Fairfax County Foster Care, Leesburg Traditional Housing and partner orphanages around the world. 703-901-7355 or www.touchingheart.com/.

Healthworks for Northern Virginia


"HealthWorks for Northern Virginia, formerly known as the Loudoun Community Health Center, is a nonprofit, Federally Qualified Health Center created to provide health care in a medical home setting to those who have limited or no health insurance. We opened our doors in May 2007, and since then, more than 12,000 patients have received quality medical care with us." Healthworks has locations in Leesburg and Herndon. <http://hwnova.org/>

Shelter House

Shelter House was formed in 1981 when several ecumenical groups came together to better serve Fairfax County's low-income population; Shelter House provides safe housing and transitional services to help homeless families and victims of domestic violence in Fairfax County achieve self-




SEE NONPROFITS, PAGE 9

Top 10 School In The World



Read About Nysmith School In The February 2016 Washington Post Education Issue


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OFF

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Boneless Ham
or Turkey Breast



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\$7.99

SKU 720091

Lunch Combo:
Sandwich, Chips
& Drink



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Herndon: Inside the Town and Fairfax County

Herndon Town Council

Herndon's Town Council consists of the Mayor and six councilmembers. The entire Town Council will be decided in the Town election on Nov. 8. See selection on Upcoming Election below.

Lisa C. Merkel, Mayor

703-435-6805

Mayor.Lisa@herndon-va.gov

Jennifer Baker, Vice Mayor

Jennifer.baker@herndon-va.gov

David A. Kirby, Councilmember

dave.kirby@herndon-va.gov

Steven L. Mitchell, Councilmember

steven.mitchell@herndon-va.gov

Sheila A. Olem, Councilmember

Sheila.olem@herndon-va.gov

Jasbinder Singh, Councilmember

jasbinder.singh@herndon-va.gov

Grace H. Wolf, Councilmember

grace.wolf@herndon-va.gov

All correspondence should be sent to:

PO Box 427, Herndon, Virginia 20172-0427 or

town.clerk@herndon-va.gov

703-435-6805

<http://www.herndon-va.gov/>

The Mayor is the chief executive officer of the Town. The duties of the Town Council include establishing Town government policy, acting upon local resolutions and ordinances, setting tax rates, approving the annual Town budget, and providing policy guidance for the Town Manager.

The Town Council holds public hearings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, except during June, July, August, and December, during which only one meeting is held on the second Tuesday of the month. Work sessions are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month with the exceptions of June, July, August, and December, during which only one session is held on the first Tuesday of the month. Alterations to this schedule are noted on the monthly calendar listings. All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public and all are encouraged to attend. Meetings are held in the Herndon Council Chambers Building located at 765 Lynn Street. Agendas are available in the Town Clerk's office at 777 Lynn Street on Fridays prior to each meeting and are posted on the website.

All Town Council public hearings are cablecast live on Herndon Community Television HCTV.

THE NEXT ELECTION for the offices of Mayor and Town Council will be held Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016. Incumbent Mayor Lisa Merkel will face a challenge from current Councilmember Jasbinder Singh for the office of Mayor.

Candidates for the six Town Council seats for the 2017-2018 term include Jennifer K. Baker, Jeffrey L. Davidson, Signe V. Friedrichs, Connie H. Hutchinson, David "Dave" A. Kirby, William J. "Bill" McKenna, Sheila A. Olem, Roland B. Taylor and Grace Han Wolf. Baker, Kirby, Olem and Wolf are incumbent councilmembers and serve on the current Town Council. Steve Mitchell is not running for reelection. Herndon's local elections had taken place in May since the Town was incorporated in 1879. For the first time in its history, Herndon will vote for the Mayor and members of its Town Council in the Fall rather than during a special Town election in the Spring.

Herndon Dulles Regional Chamber Of Commerce

<http://www.dullesregionalchamber.org/>

The Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce is located in one of the top technology corridors in the nation serving the Dulles Region, included western Fairfax, eastern Loudoun and the Town of Herndon. As one of the largest chambers in the DC metro area, the chamber works to increase business for members, to support STEM, workforce initiatives and economic development, and to partner with the community.



2014-2016 Herndon Town Council: Steve Mitchell, Grace Wolf, Sheila Olem, Mayor Lisa Merkel, Vice Mayor Jennifer Baker, Dave Kirby, Jasbinder Singh.

Board of Supervisors

Herndon is also governed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors controls the county budget, establishes county government policy, passes resolutions and ordinances [within the limits of its authority established by the Virginia General Assembly], sets local tax rates, approves land use plans and makes appointments to various positions. Fairfax County has an elected Board of Supervisors consisting of nine members elected by district, plus a chairman elected at-large.

See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/about-the-board-of-supervisors.htm

Herndon is in the Dranesville District. Herndon residents are represented on the Board of Supervisors by Dranesville Supervisor John W. Foust and Chairman Sharon Bulova, who serves at large.

Dranesville Supervisor, John W. Foust
McLean Governmental Center
1437 Balls Hill Road
McLean, VA 22101
703-356-0551, TTY 711
Email: Dranesville@FairfaxCounty.gov
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville/>

Chairman, Sharon Bulova
Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Pkwy., Ste 530
Fairfax, VA 22035
Phone: 703-324-2321, TTY 711
Email: chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/>

Fairfax County School Board

Students in the Town of Herndon attend Fairfax County Public Schools, governed by Fairfax County School Board. The board has 12 members, elected for four-year terms; one member represents each of the County's nine magisterial districts, and three members serve at large. A student representative, selected for a one-year term by the Student Advisory Council, sits with the Board at all public meetings and participates in discussions, but does not vote.

Herndon is represented by Dranesville School Board member Janie Strauss plus the three at-large members, Ryan L. McElveen 571-423-1089, Ryan.McElveen@fcps.edu,

Ilryong Moon 571-423-1090
ilryong.moon@fcps.edu and Jeanette M. Hough 571-423-1091, jhough1@fcps.edu.

Jane K. "Janie" Strauss
571-423-1087
Email: Jane.Strauss@fcps.edu
<http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/members/dranesville.shtml>

Virginia House of Delegates

The Town of Herndon is in House of Delegates district 86, a seat held by Del. Jennifer Boysko, who won her election after Del. Tom Rust (R) retired.

Parts of Herndon outside of the town and Oak Hill are represented by Del. Ken Plum (D-36) and Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67).

Virginia House of Delegates

Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86)
General Assembly Building
PO. Box 406
Richmond, Virginia 23218
Office: 804-698-1086
DelJBoysko@house.virginia.gov
District Office
730 Elden Street Herndon, VA 20170
703-437-0086

Del. Kenneth "Ken" Plum (D-36)
<http://viriniageneralassembly.gov/house/members/members.php?id=H0076>
703-758-9733
804-698-1036
General Assembly Building
PO. Box 406
Richmond, Virginia 23218
Office: 804-698-1036
DelKPlum@house.virginia.gov

Del. James M. LeMunyon (R-67)
703-264-1432
804-698-1067
DelJLeMunyon@house.virginia.gov
www.lemunyon.com
Post Office Box 220962
Chantilly 20153-0962

Virginia Senate

The Town of Herndon is represented by state senate District 33, Sen. Jennifer T. Wexton [D-33]. Other parts of Herndon outside the town are represented by Va. Sen. Janet Howell [D-32] and Va. Sen. Barbara Favola [D-31].

Sen. Jennifer T. Wexton (D-33)
P.O. Box 396
Richmond, VA 23218
Email: district33@senate.virginia.gov
Phone: (804) 698-7533

Sen. Janet Howell (D-32)
P.O. Box 396
Richmond, VA 23218
Email: district32@senate.virginia.gov
804-698-7532
<http://apps.lis.virginia.gov/sfb1/Senate/senatorwebprofile.aspx?id=223>
District Office
P.O. Box 2608
Reston, VA 20195-0608
Email: SenHowell@gmail.com

Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31)
General Assembly Building
P.O. Box 396
Richmond, Va. 23219
804-698-7531
district31@senate.virginia.gov

U.S. House of Representatives

The Herndon area is in the 10th and 11th congressional districts, represented by U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) and U.S. Rep. Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly's (D-11). All members of the U.S. House of Representatives are on the ballot this fall.

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10)
Washington, DC Office
226 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: [202] 225-5136
<https://comstock.house.gov>

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11)
Washington, DC Office
2238 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 202-225-1492
Annandale Office
4115 Annandale Road, Ste. 103
Annandale, VA 22003
Phone: 703-256-3071

U.S. Senate

Mark Warner and Tim Kaine are Virginia's U.S. Senators.

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.)
231 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4024
<http://www.kaine.senate.gov/>

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.)
475 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2023
<http://www.warner.senate.gov/>
Vienna Office
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Suite 200
Vienna, Virginia 22182
703-442-0670

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Greater Transparency in Policing

Fairfax County Police embrace change, sanctity of life for all.

BY COLONEL EDWIN C. ROESSLER JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

Dear Community Mem-bers: The Fairfax County Police Department was established on July 1, 1940 and today we have an authorized strength of 1,406 sworn law enforcement officers. Our greatly engaged community exceeds 1.1 million residents which continues to assist us in preventing and fighting crime, increasing the culture of safety to preserve the sanctity of life for all, and to keep pace with rapid urbanization.

Your Police Department proactively undertook an independent review of its use of force training, and related policies and procedures conducted by the Police Executive Research Forum. A further review generating additional change recommendations has been conducted by the County's Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. The core theme of change is adopting the philosophy of the sanctity of life in all we do. As I have discussed in multiple public forums to include the Public Safety Committee of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, your police department embraces reengineering the law enforcement profession and we are proud to be national leaders truly engaged with creating change with an engaged community.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has endorsed our reengineering of the policies governing the use of force which value the sanctity of human life.

The Police Department has adopted policies and practices which utilize the Critical Decision Making Model to ensure that all actions are proportionate, lawful, accountable, necessary, and ethical. Your Police Department has mandated annual in-service training on use of force critical decision-making because the essential knowledge and skills are considered "perishable," therefore rendering training on an annual basis a necessity.

The final report issued by the Ad Hoc Commission included recommendations made by its Independent Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. These recommendations, the subject of current deliberation by the Public Safety Committee of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, propose the creation of a Police Auditor position and establishment of a Civilian Review Panel. The Police Department welcomes immediate implementation of both as they maximize accountability through transparency, and will lead to higher levels of public trust and confi-



**Colonel Edwin C. Roessler Jr.,
Chief of Police.**

dence in the Police Department.

The Police Department is committed to enhancing its transparency at all levels and we have established policies and procedures in coordination with the Board of Supervisors to achieve maximum communication with the communities we serve. Throughout the remainder of 2016 and into 2017 we will continue to reengineer our profession in many operational and administrative areas to achieve effective change while increasing community engagement.

In 2014 the Police Department began a self-assessment process to align its policies and procedures to comply with 484 national standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The required on-site assessment was conducted by assessors from outside Virginia in early 2016, and CALEA accredited status was awarded on July 30, 2016.

The Police Department, along with the Community Services Board, other public safety agencies, and mental health advocates partnered to implement the Diversion First program which provides a viable jail diversion alternative for those in mental health crisis. Our police officers receive Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training to prepare them to recognize when persons are experiencing a mental health crisis and how best to de-escalate such initial encounters. Our CIT-trained officers now have the Merrifield Crisis Response Center, as well as two Mobile Crisis Units, enabling them to offer persons in crisis the mental health services they may require.

Welcome to Fairfax County and we encourage you to engage with your Police Department as we all continue to make our County a great place to live, work, play, and grow old. To learn more about the Fairfax County Police Department, please visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/>



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COMMUNITY NOTES

Reston Farmers Market at Lake Anne Plaza, founded in 1998, is sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Authority. The market is open Saturday mornings 8 a.m. until 12 noon through Nov. 12 (except Sept. 24). Co-Market Managers are Fran & John Lovaas.

Reston Environmental Action REACT is a nonprofit organization of residents working to make adopting green habits more

convenient. We organize both neighborhood and Reston-wide projects. To encourage recycling, eco-friendly yard and garden care, greener transportation or energy conservation or to learn more about us, call 703-620-0151 or email info@restonenvironmentalaction.org.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia invites community members to help pack food for its **Weekend Food for Kids** program. Program provides nonperishable food over the

weekend to children who receive reduced price meals during the school year at Title I schools in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria.

The 2016-17 Kickoff event is at 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 15 at Dominion Virginia Power, 3072 Centreville Road, in Herndon. Arrive at 9:30 a.m. to help with setup. Event contact Karen Amster: karenamster@aol.com. www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

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Top Stories to Watch

See two proposals for Herndon's future downtown at www.herndon-va.gov/downtownrfp.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

The redevelopment of Herndon's downtown has been discussed, brainstormed and envisioned by Council's for decades; in the next few weeks, the current Council is scheduled to make a decision that impacts Herndon's downtown forever.

Two developers gave competing proposals for the redevelopment of 4.675 acres in historic downtown before a full Council Chamber audience on June 8.

Residents offered their views on the proposals at the public hearings at the Town Council on Tuesday, June 14 and July 12.

The Town Council is expected to make a selection late this summer and anticipates a comprehensive agreement will be awarded by the end of 2016.

Stout and Teague envision a hotel on the corner of Center Street and Elden Street to go along with new residential condos in downtown Herndon.

Comstock Partners and Torti Gallas Partners envision 281 high quality apartments and 17,600 square feet of retail with walkways and plazas.

Both proposals offer an 18,000 square foot arts center as part of the project.

THE COUNCIL voted in May 2015, to purchase 1.67 acres of land in Herndon's historic downtown from Ashwell, LLC for \$3.519 million that added to the three acres of downtown land it already owns.

"The Town of Herndon has been envisioning a comprehensive redevelopment in our downtown for decades," said Mayor Lisa Merkel, around the time the Town purchased the property,

The purchase clears the way for a comprehensive development project in the downtown, in accordance with the Downtown Master Plan adopted by the Town Council in 2011.

"Until this purchase, however, we have been limited in our ability to effectively position downtown Herndon for comprehensive redevelopment, as much of the necessary land was under private ownership."

The land is generally described as between Station Street to the east, Center Street to the west, south of the W&OD Trail, and north of Elden Street.

MANY RESIDENTS are excited.

"We look forward to seeing downtown reach its full potential," said Richard Downer.

"I am very excited that we have two really wonderful plans in front of us," said Signe Friedrichs.

"We are terrifically excited about an 18,000 square-foot arts center right in the heart of our downtown," said Michael

O'Reilly.

But some are concerned.

"What we are doing now is putting high density living in a very congested area. How are we going to handle the traffic?" said Stephen Mundt.

"With 422 dedicated spots to parking, that is potentially 422 people who are leaving every morning and returning every evening," said Meghan Gallardo. "We're going to see a lot of traffic and I want to see how that is going to be managed."

"I have serious concern about the the viability of a hotel in downtown Herndon," said Julia Evans. "With all due respect to the lovely town that I live in, Herndon is not a destination that can support a boutique hotel."

Some want to ensure the long-term success of Herndon's future downtown.

"Comstock has a two-year timeline while Stout and Teague has a five-year phased timeline," said Arthur Nachman. "We've just been through the Great Recession," he said. "Markets can change unexpectedly. ... We could be left with a half finished project."

"Shorter construction period and construction costs make it better for everybody, especially for the existing business community," said Downer. "Comstock promises to maintain and program their whole proposed area while Stout and Teague passes all this responsibility to the Town and also the cost of doing that."

Said Nachman: "Time is the killer of all deals. We need to have a plan that can be completed quickly from start to finish."

See <http://www.herndon-va.gov/departments/communications-economic-development/economic-development/herndon-downtown-redevelopment-project-rfp>

Mayor's Race and Town Council

For the first time in its history, Herndon will vote for the Mayor and members of its Town Council in the Fall rather than during a special Town election in the Spring.

Herndon's Town Council adopted an ordinance March 10, 2015 so Herndon's next Town election will be held in November 2016.

Herndon's local elections had taken place in May since the Town was incorporated in 1879.

At Herndon precincts, between 75-80 percent of registered voters turned out for the November 2012 presidential election year, and approximately 38-45 percent turned out during the midterm elections in November 2010, according to town records. In general, 20-25 percent of registered voters turnout for elections when they are in May.

Hundreds voiced opinions during four

public hearings in November and December and by email and written testimony to the Council.

Some residents remained convinced that town elections should be separate from federal and state elections to allow focus on town issues.

"Change is really hard. It's hard in business, it's hard in personal life, it's hard in policy. It's really hard so I absolutely recognize that. But the cornerstone of democracy is participation," said Jennifer Baker, vice mayor on the Council.

"May (elections) made a lot of sense for a long time. But we've done a lot of research and because of that I feel very convinced that we now know November will be better choice going forward," she said.

Council Seats

Current Councilmember Jasbinder Singh announced at the end of June that he will run against Mayor Lisa Merkel for the Town's Mayor position in the upcoming Nov. 8 election.

Candidates for Mayor and the six Town Council seats for the 2017-2018 term announced their intent to run.

Candidates for the six Town Council seats for the 2017-2018 term include Jennifer K. Baker, Jeffrey L. Davidson, Signe V. Friedrichs, Connie H. Hutchinson, David "Dave" A. Kirby, William J. "Bill" McKenna, Sheila A. Olem, Roland B. Taylor and Grace Han Wolf.

Baker, Kirby, Olem and Wolf serve on the current Town Council. Steve Mitchell is not running for reelection.

RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN who are eligible but not registered to vote must do so by Oct. 17, 2016 to vote in the town election.

Register online at www.vote.virginia.gov, or return a completed application post-marked or delivered to the General Registrar, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, Virginia, 22035-0081.

Voter registration forms and absentee ballot applications also are available in the Town Clerk's office, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon, 703-435-6804, town.clerk@herndon-va.gov.

Silver Looks Golden

Herndon Station is part of Phase 2 of the Silver Line, running to Dulles Airport and beyond into Loudoun County, which is now 30 percent complete, and scheduled to be operational within the next five years.

See <http://www.dullesmetro.com/silver-line-stations/herndon/>

"There aren't many towns that can get involved in projects like this," said Mayor Lisa Merkel.

The entire Silver Line will be a 23-mile extension of the existing Metrorail system from East Falls Church, through Tysons and Reston, and eventually to Washington Dulles International Airport west into Loudoun County.

The Herndon Town Council approved 38 acres to be set aside for its future Metro stop in February 2012. The Herndon Metro Area Station Plan envisions: a mix of retail, hotel, office and residential space, to include 3.2 million net square feet of additional commercial floor area and 2,400 dwellings by 2035; a promenade, pedestrian and bicycle-friendly trails and enhancements, and recreational amenities; premier office space; parking garages with short-term spaces for kiss-and-ride passengers; and pull-offs along Herndon Parkway for vehicles dropping off and picking up passengers.

"We passed a resolution in February advocating for the County to put a Circulator Bus route for Phase II because we want our residents to get to the Metro without having to get in the car," Mayor Merkel said. "If we have reliable, frequent transit options, people will use it."

Merkel wants everything in place by the time the Silver Line's doors open to Herndon in four or so years.

"People are going to establish their commuting patterns on that first day," Merkel said. "We are working with Fairfax County because we do want to be ready on day one."

Junction Square/ Tradition Homes

Monroe and Elden and Nachman Way Groundbreaking is anticipated for October, including 2,000 square feet of retail space, five mixed use units whose retail fronts will front Elden Street and 18 townhouses. The Town Council approved the rezoning of the property in December 2014.

New Fire Station

Herndon's new station at 680 Spring Street, a \$13.35 million project funded through a bond referendum that Fairfax County voters approved in November 2014, is anticipated to be completed in the Fall.

The 14,500 square-foot fire station at 680 Spring Street will be a two-story facility with below-grade parking.

A temporary fire station has been constructed at 791 Elden Street so Fire and Rescue can maintain service during construction.

The former fire station on Spring Street was the oldest stations in operation in Fairfax County.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Nonprofits

FROM PAGE 5

sufficiency. Currently Shelter House is seeking monetary, item and time donations. www.shelterhouse.org/.

LINK: Link Against Hunger

LINK is an all volunteer Christian organization that provides emergency food and financial assistance to families living in Herndon, Sterling and Ashburn. They were established in 1972 and have been partnering with churches, businesses, schools, scout groups and individuals to help provide food to families in need. Volunteers are needed to pick up food from area stores, schools and businesses, pack food for families, deliver food, help in our pantry and distribute food to various locations. They also rescue food at area schools in Fairfax and Loudoun county and need volunteers during school hours. Their Mobile Food Pantry is held on the second Tuesday of each month in Sterling and volunteers are needed from 12:30 - 3 p.m. 703-437-1776 or www.linkagainsthunger.org.

Northern Virginia Technology Council

A not-for-profit that functions similarly to a chamber of commerce for tech companies, providing resources and networking opportunities for tech businesses; offices are in Herndon. www.nvtc.org or 703-904-7878.

Herndon Village Network

The Herndon Village Network is dedicated to assisting Herndon area seniors age in place. Their focus at this time is on providing free transportation for Herndon seniors to medical appointments, social engagements, or shopping. They welcome volunteers and those in need of transportation to visit their website www.herndonvillagenetwork.org, email HerndonVillageNetworkInfo@gmail.com or call 703-375-9439 for more information.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia

An all-volunteer organization that clothes, feeds, educates and nurtures those in need. Working through six elementary schools and Inova Fairfax Hospital, Assistance League touches the

lives of some of the most needy in Northern Virginia. The schools involved include Dogwood Elementary in Reston, Lynbrook Elementary and Garfield Elementary in Springfield, Cora Kelly Elementary in Alexandria and Pine Spring Elementary in Falls Church. Volunteers and donors are always needed. Contact ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com or www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org

MORE AREA NONPROFITS

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area LWVFA is a volunteer organization composed of passionate men and women who are dedicated to making democracy work. It encourages active participation by citizens, but it does not support or endorse candidates. It conducts studies of important community issues, has monthly meetings during which members discuss these issues, and uses education and advocacy to influence public policy, at the local level, in the interest of the public. It conducts candidate forums so that citizens can ask the candidates questions, candidates can answer those questions and also interact directly with the public. LWVFA also registers voters and provides them with unbiased information about the voting process, issues of interest, and elections. To learn more about this organization or to join please go to its website, www.lwv-fairfax.org.

Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC)

AHC Inc., a nonprofit developer of affordable housing, operates throughout northern Virginia and the Baltimore area to provide quality homes for families and individuals making between 30 and 60 percent of the middle income for their area. AHC also offers services for residents and homeownership opportunities. 703-486-0626 or www.ahcinc.org/index.html.

Committee for Helping Others CHO

CHO is an organization committed to providing "simple, loving charity" to those in need in Vienna, Dunn Loring, and Merrifield. CHO is currently seeking volunteer drivers for their furniture and transportation programs. 703-281-7614 or www.cho-va.com.

Family PASS

Family PASS strives to step in before families lose their housing and to help homeless families regain housing and become self-sufficient by providing rental subsidies assistance, extensive case management and other aid including access to education, job training, child care, food, transportation, health care, help with children's issues and counseling. Volunteer opportunities include positions as drivers, food drive organizers and tutors. 703-242-6474 or <http://familypassfairfax.org/>.

So Others Might Eat

SOME is a 46-year-old organization based in the Washington D.C. area with church partnerships throughout Northern Virginia.

SOME works to meet the immediate daily needs of needy adults and children with food, clothing and health care, with the goal of breaking the cycle of homelessness by offering services such as affordable housing, job training, addiction treatment and counseling to the poor, the elderly and individuals with mental illness.

202.797.8806 or www.some.org/

Pathway Homes

Established in 1980, Pathway Homes focuses on providing housing and support services to individuals with serious mental illnesses, aiming to help these individuals reach their full potential and lead stable lives. They offer both in-home programs, semi-independent houses and assisted living facilities. Volunteer opportunities include one on one interaction, group work and more. info@pathwayhomes.org, 703-876-0390, www.pathwayhomes.org.

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GrandInvolve Seeks Volunteers

GrandInvolve is recruiting older adults as volunteers who would like to become mentors, reading and math helpers, and classroom helpers. This intergenerational volunteer program has been successful in bringing many new volunteers to our Title 1 Elementary schools. If you'd like to have a reward-

ing volunteering experience, with flexible hours and varying responsibilities, join us at one of 5 schools this year. Schools with the GrandInvolve program are located in Springfield, Lincolnia, the Route 1 area of Alexandria, Chantilly and Herndon. For more information, contact one of the team members at GrandInvolve@gmail.com

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

PHOTOS BY JOAN O'BRYAN/THE CONNECTION



Tents at the Reston Farmers Market frame the Lake Anne water fountain.



The crowd starts to fill in at Herndon's Friday Night Live.

Vibrant City Living, Small Town Life

Living in the Reston-Herndon area means you don't have to pick just one!

BY JOAN O'BRYAN
THE CONNECTION

Despite the fierce Herndon-South Lakes high schools rivalry, Herndonites and Restonians have more in common than they do differences. Not the least of which, residents from both towns share a lively and vibrant social scene.

It's gotten to the point where point of residence says little about which locations appeal to you. While the towns aren't quite combined enough yet to merit a "Brangelina"-style celebrity nickname (nor does it quite have the right ring: Hernston? Resdon?), there's no denying that together they are much more than the sum of their parts. The benefit of living in Herndon is every Reston attraction, and vice versa.

No matter the town you're currently tenting, the following highlights are open to you. There's something for everyone, from wild adventure to peaceful walk-about. Whether you're new to the area or just visiting, make sure you fill your weekends with one (or all!) of these.

Make a Splash at the Water Mine in Lake Fairfax Park

Lake Fairfax Park has it all: the eponymous lake, mountain-biking trails, grills and picnic table. But in one significant feature does it go above and beyond. Inside its bounds is the popular local water park, the Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole.

The Water Mine is filled to the brim with



Some of the Reston Runners members gather at Reston Town Center to enjoy post-run breakfast.

aquatic adventure. There's an interactive water playground, a lazy river, and slides of all lengths and inclines for the adventurous aquanaut. Rob Robinson, 40, was waiting in line with Nikki, 35, and Laila, 20 months. According to Robinson, it's a "good place to bring elementary aged children. Basically, it's safe and secure for them. The highest depth is four feet, it's family-oriented." Most importantly, "you can bring in a cooler and have your own snacks," a big bonus for any family on a trip.

In a nearby pavilion, Melvin Jones, 69, and Aaron Greene, 71, set up for the Chantilly Baptist Annual Sunday School Picnic. They were expecting a crowd of at least one hundred people. Jones appreciates the convenience and congeniality of having an event at Lake Fairfax. "It's beautiful out here. Whenever we get this spot right up in here, it's beautiful. We've got a good view, nice facility, nice accommodations." Added Greene, "it's a good central point, it's easy to set up, and the kids will be saying, 'hey, we need to go to the water park!'"

Shop and Dine at Reston Town Center

Where once stood a humble cow pasture, now stands the archetype for the quickly developing architectural phenomenon, "Urban Light." Urban light aims to bring the best of both words: all of the commercial benefits of a city center with all of the personality of a small-town main street. Only 26 years old, Reston Town Center has rapidly become the heart of the area's social scene.

Ask any group of locals to name their favorite part about Reston Town Center, and you'll be swamped by a chorus of enthusiastic answers. In addition to high-end shopping and dining, RTC, in the local parlance, is chock full of events and activities.

There are public art installations, such as the one currently featuring work by American sculpture artist Patrick Dougherty. Happy hour sales attract young professionals, eager to network over craft beers and fancy wine. Sunday mornings, sporty types

meet for public fitness classes in the pavilion. Parents appreciate Bow Tie Cinemas' convenient central location, perfect for dropping off a tween date while retaining the appropriate "embarrassment-free-radius" by shopping next door.

As the year proceeds, each new holiday and season is met by the appropriate hoopla: parades, ice skating, sing-alongs, and more. Visitors can find the complete events list by visiting www.restontowncenter.com.

As Gigi Harwell, 64, a longtime Herndonite, says: "Every city, every town tries to replicate the Reston Town Center. They can not do it! I've been to different areas, and they can not do what Reston Town Center has done. And that's what I like about it."

Visit the Past in Downtown Herndon

Whereas Reston Town Center has a frenetic energy to match its newish birth, Downtown Herndon's more mellow vibe befits its aged stature. Herndon was founded as a settlement in 1858, but began truly thriving with the arrival of the WO&D railroad in the early twentieth century. Easy come, easy go: in 1968 the railroad was converted into a hike-and-bike trail, and with it came the transformation from industrial stop to small-town feel.

Downtown Herndon remains proud of its history. The old train station was converted to the Herndon Depot Museum. Inside is railroad memorabilia, artifacts from Herndon's yore, and information on the town's namesake, Captain William Lewis Herndon. Nearby is a decommissioned red caboose, cheerfully clambered on by children peeking into the past.

Historical pride aside, modern Herndon has much to brag about as well. There's a delightful collection of ethnic restaurants. The red brick architecture is pleasing, cre-

SEE PLACES TO GO, PAGE 14

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LONG-TIME RESIDENTS TO NEWCOMERS

What's the Best Part of Living in the Area?

—JOAN O'BRYAN



Kathy Blystone, 56, 32 years in Herndon:

"I like downtown Herndon because it's fun to take friends to the Breeze and different restaurants. After Friday Night Live the Breeze puts on a big thing. We just really like the atmosphere. It's inviting."



Chrissie Constable, 34, and son Cooper, 4 1/2, 5 months in Herndon:

"Friday Night Live is a lot of fun! Our neighbors told us about it. They come almost every week. So we come for a few songs until the kids get tired and have a great night out!"

Manfred Boerhinger, 69, 16 years in Reston:

"In Reston, everything works. This is number one. Bus, police, banking, restaurants. I lived in Switzerland three years. I don't want to say that this is Switzerland, but the perfection is amazing. I'm a fan of the U.S.



government, including the Virginia state government. This is perfect. My brother and sister were here from Germany and we were sitting here (in Reston Town Center), he looked around and said, 'Manfred, now I understand why you never came home again.'"

SEE VIEWPOINT, PAGE 14



16182 HILLSBORO RD, PURCELLVILLE - Luxury country estate on 22 ac. Pure elegance, with every bell & whistle. 6 BR, 6 1/2 BA. Lower level suite with full living quarters & outside entrance. Gorgeous outdoor living areas; inground pool, pool house, putting green, professional landscaping. Secured entry gate, fully fenced. Whole house generator with dedicated propane tank **\$1,900,000**

Carole Taylor • 703-577-4680 • ctaylor@middleburgrealestate.com



292 HITE LN, STRASBURG - Mt. Pleasant, c. 1812. Beautiful Federal manor home of brick crafted on-site. Original heart pine floors, magnificent staircase & beautiful millwork. 5 BR, 5 BA, 8 FP. High ceilings, great flow for entertaining. 107 Ac. Country kitchen with FP, tenant house, bank barn, spring house. A perfect weekend retreat, year around residence, B&B. 1+ hr to DC. On National Register. **\$1,200,000**

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17971 YATTON RD, ROUND HILL - Historic Runnymede Farm, c. 1777 is totally updated for today's lifestyle. Spacious stone manor house sits on 20 beautiful acres. 4 BR, 2 FB, 3 HB. Interior stone walls, terrace. Gourmet kitchen, separate dining room with FP, tavern room with built-in wetbar, walk out to huge terrace with spa overlooking fields. Old springhouse, small barn. Entire property fenced. Very commutable, yet feels a world away. **\$1,170,000**

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39207 JOHN MOSBY HWY, ALDIE - Historic home c.1803 in the heart of Aldie, beautifully restored interior, private front and back porches, stunning swimming pool with exceptional outdoor entertainment center, gazebo and hot tub, exquisite professionally landscaped gardens all beautifully manicured, brick walkways, extensive patios, fencing. Detached art studio and 2 car garage. Must see! **\$1,099,000**

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35653 MILLVILLE RD, MIDDLEBURG - LOCATION! Lovely 4BR/3.5BA home w/spacious rooms on 18+ acres just minutes from Middleburg. Two-stall barn/tack with four stone/board-fenced paddocks, terrific rideout. Middleburg Hunt. Enhanced by high-speed Internet, whole house generator, extensive invisible fencing. Mountain views, soaring magnolias, wonderful gardens. **\$995,000**

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MORGANS MILL RD, BLUEMONT - 147 acres! 4 lots, 4 building rights, recreation or hunting paradise! Presently in forestry-wooded mature forest (value in lumber), potential conservation easement/tax credits, trails, potential views; tree stands, access to appalachian trail and no covenants or restrictions! Includes lots 33-a-6a; 33-a-6b, 33-a-6c. **\$799,000**

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15210 SHANNONDALE RD, PURCELLVILLE - Very unique property custom built by artist! 12+ acres, incredible views and privacy, gorgeous family room with beautiful stone FP, wood floors, cathedral ceiling, loft with landing, lovely kitchen with built-in seating, huge art studio with separate entrance, main level master with wool carpet and lovely master bath, finished LL, den with stone FP, 2 bedrooms, full bath, & walk out, 2 car garage, deck, & pond. **\$749,000**

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13 HUNT CT, MIDDLEBURG - Ultimate quality! Immaculate all brick townhouse w/ high end upgrades & finishes. Recently refinished HW floors, built-in bookcases, beautiful crown molding, Wi-Fi thermostats & Ralph Lauren lighting fixtures throughout the house. 3 fireplaces, 4 levels, beautiful light-filled kitchen. Mins from restaurants, shops & wineries in historic Middleburg! Fantastic location. Must see to fully appreciate! **\$499,000**

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Peter Pejacsevich • 540-270-3835 • Peter@atokaproperties.net



20979 SANDSTONE SQ, STERLING - Beautiful 2804 sq ft end unit townhouse with hardwood on the main level. New roof. New stainless steel kitchen appliances. Beautifully maintained and great location, close to Cascade Market Place, RT 7 and RT 28 and not far away from Dulles Airport. The Whirlpool tub is as is. Ready for new buyer. **\$480,000**

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How to Vote

Every year is election year in Virginia; mechanics and details of voting require attention to detail.

FAIRFAX COUNTY:

While the Presidential election will take top billing, every seat in the U.S. Congress is on the ballot, with one hotly contested race in Northern Virginia.

In Fairfax County, voters will decide whether to enact a four percent meals tax, a topic voters will hear a lot more about in coming weeks.

The Town of Herndon will have its first November election, moving from May in past elections, with the office of Mayor and six Town Council seats on the ballot.

Fairfax County voters will decide on three bond questions, including \$120 million in transportation bonds for Metro; \$107 million in bonds for parks; and \$85 million for building and renovating senior and community centers, and homeless shelters. More at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>

Absentee Voting in Person in Fairfax County

Voting begins Sept. 23, and with record turnout possible, voting early if you qualify is a good choice.

There are 19 valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, including working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible. <http://elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html>

There are two ways to vote absentee, in-person and by mail. To do either, you should first check your voter registration status to make sure it is up-to-date. Then you will need to apply for an absentee ballot. Note: If you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the in-person absentee location (see locations below). Voting absentee by mail? Read below for the process of applying for your mail-in ballot.

You can now apply for an absentee ballot online with the state's new Citizen Portal. You will need your Social Security Number and information on your Virginia Driver's License to complete the application. Information is also provided on how to apply if you do not have a driver's license.

Absentee Voting Begins Sept. 23

Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 2/3,

12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, 22035

Weekday Schedule:

❖ Sept. 23 to Oct. 14, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Closed, Monday, Oct. 17, Columbus Day.

❖ Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday Schedule: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and November 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 5 is the last day to absentee vote in-person.

Upcoming Deadlines

On Election Day Polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

To determine whether you are eligible and registered to vote in this election, visit the Virginia Department of Elections website at <http://elections.virginia.gov/> or call Fairfax Elections office at 703-222-0776.

❖ Sept. 23: In-Person Absentee Voting Begins <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>

❖ Oct. 17: Voter Registration Deadline - In-Person: 5 p.m., Online www.vote.virginia.gov 11:59 p.m.

❖ Nov. 1: Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot by Mail, Fax, Email or Online: 5 p.m.

❖ Nov. 5: Final Day for In-Person Absentee Voting

❖ Nov. 8: Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: 7 p.m.

For more information on voting in Fairfax County:

Voter Registration: 703-222-0776, TTY 711

Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725

Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

Election Officer Info: 703-324-4735, TTY 711

ON THE BALLOT in Fairfax County:

❖ President and Vice President

❖ U.S. House of Representatives, 8th, 10th, or 11th District

❖ Meal Tax Referendum

❖ Three Proposed County Bond Questions

❖ Two Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Absentee Voting at Satellite Locations

Saturday Schedule: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Weekday Schedule: Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, Monday - Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Satellite Voting Locations:

❖ Providence Community Center - 3001 Vaden Dr., Fairfax, 22031

❖ Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310

❖ McLean Governmental Center - 1437 Balls Hill Rd., Community Room, McLean, 22101

❖ North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Dr., Community Rooms, Reston, 20190

❖ West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield, 22152

❖ Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003

❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306

❖ Sully Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, 20151

❖ Lorton Library - 9520 Richmond Hwy., Lorton, 22079 SATURDAYS ONLY (Closed Weekdays)

Ballot Question, Meals Tax

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax/> Fairfax County voters will vote yes or no on establishing a 4 percent meals tax. The Connection will publish stories and letters in coming weeks on both sides of this issue.

QUESTION:

State law authorizes counties, cities, and towns to levy a tax on prepared food and beverages, commonly called a "meals tax,"

subject to certain restrictions. Most counties, including Fairfax County, may levy a meals tax only if the voters approve the tax by referendum.

The question presented in this referendum asks Fairfax County voters whether the Board of Supervisors should be authorized to levy a meals tax, at a rate not to exceed four percent of the amount charged for the taxable food and beverages.

70 percent of the net revenues would be dedicated to Fairfax County Public Schools; 30 percent of the net revenues would be dedicated to County services, capital improvements and property tax relief.

The question also states that the Board of Supervisors' reason for seeking authority to impose a meals tax is to reduce the county's dependence on real estate taxes. Currently, nearly 65 percent of Fairfax County's General Fund budget relies upon real estate taxes. State law limits what the county can tax and how it may otherwise raise revenue. Almost 90 percent of Fairfax County non-property tax revenues are capped, limited, or controlled by the state. A meals tax would give the County a new source of revenue, which would help diversify the County's revenue base. At the maximum four percent tax rate, a meals tax would generate an estimated \$99 million per year, with a significant percentage paid by non-county residents.

A number of area jurisdictions already impose a meals tax, including Arlington County, the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, and Fairfax, and the towns of Herndon and Vienna.

Four Bond Questions

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/> **TRANSPORTATION BONDS, Yes or No**

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$120 million to finance Fairfax County's share, under the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact, of the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation improvements and facilities, including capital costs of land, transit facilities, rolling stock and equipment in the Washington metropolitan area, and to finance improvements to primary and secondary State highways and ancillary related improvements and facilities?

PARKS AND PARK FACILITIES BONDS, Yes or No

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds, in addition to bonds previously authorized for parks and park facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$107,000,000: (i) \$94,700,000 principal amount to finance the Fairfax County Park Authority's cost to acquire, construct, develop and equip additional parks and park facilities, to preserve open-space land, and to develop and improve existing parks and park facilities; and (ii) \$12,300,000 principal amount for Fairfax County's contribution to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to acquire, construct, develop and equip parks and park facilities?

HUMAN SERVICES/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BONDS, Yes or No

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$85,000,000 to provide funds to finance the cost of human services facilities and community development facilities, including the construction and reconstruction of community centers and shelters and the acquisition of land and equipment or interests therein?

❖ Replace the Sully Senior Center and a build new Lorton Community Center (\$37 million)

❖ Renovate, expand or replace four emergency shelters for people who are homeless: Patrick Henry, Embry Rucker, Eleanor Kennedy, and Bailey's (\$48 million)

Virginia Voter ID

Virginia has a stringent voter identification requirement, plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Election Day.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Vir

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

How to Vote

FROM PAGE 12

ginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business.

Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don't panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Friday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted.

Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

Constitutional Amendments

Two proposed Virginia Constitutional Amendments will also be on the ballot:

Ballot Question 1: Should Article I of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to prohibit any agreement or combination between an employer and a labor union or labor organization whereby (i) nonmembers of the union or organization are denied the right to work for the employer, (ii) membership to the union or organization is made a condition of employment or continuation of employment by such employer, or (iii) the union or organization acquires an employment monopoly in any such enterprise?

The proposed amendment places the provisions of Virginia's right to work law into the Constitution of Virginia. While Virginia law may be amended by any future General Assembly, a constitutional prohibition can only be changed by a future constitutional amendment approved by the voters.

Ballot Question 2: Shall the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to provide an option to the localities to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any law-enforcement officer, firefighter, search and rescue personnel, or emergency medical services personnel who was killed in the line of duty, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried?



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

PHOTOS BY JOAN O'BRYAN/THE CONNECTION



Francesca Villamil, 3, and her brother Lucas, 1, chase chickens at Frying Pan Park.



Shoppers stroll through the Lake Anne Village Center as the Reston Farmers Market bustles.

Places To Go

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ating a picturesque view for happy ice-cream lickers sitting on the scattering of benches.

Probably the most popular location to visit is the Great Harvest Bread Company. “They give you free samples. My grandkids love that. We go sit on the bench outside and feed the birds and eat the bread for breakfast,” says resident Sue Pugh. Wild life and locals alike are fans of Herndon’s culinary chef d’oeuvre.

Stretch Your Legs on the W&OD Trail or the Paths Around Walker Nature Center

The W&OD trail used to be the Washington and Old Dominion railway line during the heyday of the steam engine. Now it’s a 45 mile-long asphalt bike trail that passes through the heart of Downtown Herndon and right next to Reston Town Center.

Parts of the trail are quiet and empty; in other sections the ground practically hums with the whizzing of bicycles and the patter of jogging feet. At select intervals are benches and water fountains for exercise-junkies needing a break. The Reston Runners are big fans of the Green Lizard Cycling shop, which according to general consensus, has the best espresso in the area. Coffees and smoothies refuel hikers and bikers, as the Green Lizard mechanics get their machines into tip-top shape.

Not everyone uses the W&OD to get in shape. Matt Kim, 18, recently went for a short walk along the trail with his younger brother, Daniel, 10. Forget the scenery, the main attraction was “the small bird Pokemons and rats” (officially, Pidgeys and Rattatas) available for the hunting. Yes, that’s right: the W&OD is the perfect place to play Pokemon Go. Matt says that he and his little brother appreciate the trail for its convenience and safety, since “he (Daniel)

can’t really cross roads that much by himself, so I guess just being able to walk in a safe, car-free environment is good for him.”

For kids whose digital wildlife spotting inspires a return to nature, the Walker Nature Center runs various environmental education programs. Almost no age is too young; Reston’s littlest members have a program dedicated specifically to them “Babes in the Woods” for ages 18-35 months. Adults can learn about subjects such worm composting or fall container planting in assorted programs.

The Walker Nature Center also acts as a hub for the myriad walking and running paths that spiral through Reston. There exists 1,300 acres of open space in the town, and the center has the low-down on each and every one of them. Walking the trails is free; programs are fee-based. More information at www.reston.org

Look Your Food in the Eye at Frying Pan Park

The evocative name surely unnerves the pigs and cattle living there, but they have nothing to fear from Frying Pan Park. It’s where they go next that involves culinary equipment. The farm today operates as a “frozen in time” historical park, showing modern day city-dwellers the agricultural life their grandparents might have enjoyed.

There’s a barn filled with antique farming equipment and more ancient thrashers and plows scattered about the property. At Kidwell Farm, children can get to know draft horses, goats, chickens, sheep, and rabbits. Especially exciting is the new litter of baby piglets, fourteen in all, as proudly shown off by Lily Dunham, 18, a freshman beginning her veterinary study at NVCC. Some will be bought by local farms, others will go to young 4-H participants, and a lucky few will stay at the Park, living in styes like Hogwarts and Hammelot. Every so often, the farm will have a presidential guest: the pardoned Thanksgiving turkey, saved from the White House table, will peck happily at the Virginian soil.

On weekdays there are often school trips, but events at the park run the gamut from birthday parties to free bluegrass concerts. Seasonal events include the Easter Egg Hunt, a Scarecrow Making Workshop, and Christmas on the Farm. If you go Friday mornings, you’ll be able to participate in a wagon ride driven by the knowledgeable volunteer Jeff Smith. He’ll tell you what happens to the milk, why not to eat the Farm’s corn, and if you’re lucky, where Frying Pan Park got its funny name.

Wei Lu, 52, enjoys watching the horses as they practice for equestrian competitions. He’s a big fan of the park and especially the old John Deere equipment. According to Lu, “it’s kind of rustic, but it’s very precious.”

Spend Time in Lake Anne Village Center

When Robert E. Simon, Jr., broke ground on his marvelous utopian settlement, his first project was carving out the 30-acre Lake Anne. Along its edges, he built the beautiful Lake Anne Village Center. He envisioned a thriving, European-style city center, where residents could sit sipping cappuccinos and admire the sparkling rainbows made by the lake’s blustering fountain.

Residents have stayed true to their founder’s vision. Today, the center thrives as shoppers visit its locally-owned businesses - no chains allowed! There’s an art gallery, restaurants, community center, and the Reston Historic Trust & Museum for the historically inclined. There’s even a “nanobrewery” (one size smaller than the popular microbrewery craze sweeping the nation). Lake Anne Brew House sells small-batch, hand-crafted beers with names like Lake Anne Skinny Dip Kolsch and Reston Red Ale.

Residents and visitors enjoy sitting around the fountain in the middle of the plaza. “I love it. The first time I visited with my girlfriend and I thought, this is great! My son would love this; he’s six years old. And I love the kettlecorn. The atmosphere is great near the water. And it’s friendly and good for kids,” according to McLean resident

Wendy Ko, 35. Her son, Alex, 6, is a big fan of the fountain, but not without reservations: “It has lots of splashes, but it’s not very deep.” That didn’t stop him from getting soaked, in the company of about ten of his peers.

On Saturday mornings, the village center is filled with hustle and bustle as the Reston Farmer’s Market sets up. Tina Barrett, 79, has been a Herndon resident since 1960 and is a farmer’s market enthusiast: “The Reston farmer’s market is great. It has everything, vegetables, people selling wares. You name it, they have it there!” True to her word, you can get everything from vegan burgers to women’s clothing while walking in the bright sunshine.

Last but not least, the water feature itself provides residents with entertainment. Surf Reston rents paddleboards and offers lessons. For the uninitiated, paddleboarding is a water sport where one stands on a long, flat surfboard and uses an oar to propel oneself through the water. The Reston Association also provides hourly boat rentals for those who prefer their water sports with a lower center of gravity.

Work Out and Make Friends with Reston Runners

What’re the Reston Runners all about? In a word, breakfast. According to Mary Goebel, 69, “we run so we can eat!”

The running and walking group gets together every Saturday and Sunday morning. They run or walk, depending on preference, a pre-assigned route pausing for drinks at strategically spaced water stations. Afterwards, they’ll gather in a sweaty circle at Reston Town Center and enjoy coffee and company.

These athletes span multiple generations, from college students home for the summer to senior citizens. In addition to providing running routes, the group is an excellent place to meet people and make

SEE PLACES TO GO, PAGE 15

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Places To Go

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friends. Manfred Boehringer, 69, has been with the Runners for seven years now.

"It's actually my life now. I meet people to run, to bike, to ski. I retired in 2009 and since then this has been my social world. We even went to the zoo yesterday. The best thing about Reston Runners is that we have all kinds of people. It's easy, Reston Runners is very open."

Beyond visiting the zoo, Reston Runners do a variety of events and trips together. Walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain and along Hadrian's wall in England are just two of many international trips that John Nusbaum, 72, remembers fondly.

Anna Newcomb, 52, an ex-president of the group, touts their niche programs. Previous years have featured Youth in Motion, a running program for kids ages 2-12. Currently she helps organize the women's training program. The "Couch to 5k" program helps beginner female athletes train for their first 5,000 meter race. Women receive mentoring from previous program participants, and learn the basics about running culture. "It's a very popular program among a lot of people who have just started to run. There's also a little education every week, about clothing or nutrition or whatever has to do with entering into the athletic world. It's a very sweet program."

Saturdays and Sundays are the staple runs, but at different points in the year there are Wednesday night trainings, Tuesday/Thursday evening runs, and Tuesday/Thursday morning meet-ups. More information can be found at www.restonrunners.org.

Listen to Live Music at Friday Night Live and Concerts on the Town

Rock and roll has never been so family friendly. On the Town Green in Downtown Herndon, little ones bounce to the live music as parents recline in lawn chairs. Friday Night Live has been Herndon's go to outdoor summer concert series for over twenty years.

Though the median age skews elementary, that's not to say there's nothing for adults. Stephanie Harrison, 28, has been attending for five straight years. What brings her? "Good beer and good music." What else do you need?

And if you didn't get enough music on Friday night, never fear. Herndon starts the weekend; Reston finishes it. Concerts on the Town at Reston Town Center provide another night of live listenin'.



PHOTO BY BY JOAN O'BRYAN/THE CONNECTION

Walkers stroll by the Herndon Depot Museum on the W&OD trail.

Randy Boone, 56, attends the series every summer. He's a fan of the variety. "Jazz, fusion, every year it's something different. You could get rock, you get reggae, just the different variety of music is nice. It's always good music." However, he warns that all visitors should come prepared. Be sure to bring a lawn chair, water, and a snack!

Unfortunately for recent comers, both of these series have their last shows this upcoming weekend, August 26 and 27.

Kicking yourself for having missed out on great music? Fret not. (See what I did there?) JamBrew brings local bands back to the Town Green beginning Friday, Sept. 2 and carrying on throughout the month.

VIEWPOINTS



PHOTO BY JOAN O'BRYAN/THE CONNECTION

Laura Thomas works at the Reston museum.

Laura Thomas, 83, 49 years in Reston

"People come from across the country to learn firsthand about the vision that (Robert E.) Simon had. People come from abroad to see this, because it was so innovative and has become so successful. (In 1967) there was very little here. It was very small. We moved to Hunters Woods but there was nothing really. You didn't have street lights. Everything changed. I like change and growth. What has not changed is people continue to come here with basically the same philosophy as they came in 1967. They want something that is good for families, good for economic growth, sophisticated, and worthy of families. And that's why they come."

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PARKS

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAJOR PARKS IN THE AREA

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES.
FEATURING MEADOWLARK BOTANICAL GARDENS
MAP BY LAURENCE FOONG AND DESIGN BY JEAN CARD

National Parks

GF Great Falls National Park

9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean
www.nps.gov/grfa
Great Falls Park is open daily from 7 a.m. until dark. The Visitor Center and bookstore are open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily, spring through fall seasons. Picnic, hike along the Potomac River. Swimming and wading in the Potomac are prohibited.

GW George Washington Memorial Parkway

www.nps.gov/gwmp
703-289-2500
The GW Parkway includes more than 25 sites, ranging from historic homes to wildlife preserves. Join a ranger for a free program or explore sites independently. Some park sites, including Turkey Run Park, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Great Falls Park, etc., close at dark. The Parkway itself remains open 24 hours a day to vehicle traffic.

WT Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

1551 Trap Road, Vienna
www.nps.gov/wotr/
The only national park dedicated to presenting the performing arts. From May through September, multiple amphitheatres in the park present musicals, dance, opera, jazz, and popular and country music. Explore the park without the crowds from October - April. The Barns at Wolf Trap offer indoor entertainment through the winter months.

State Park

MN Mason Neck State Park

7301 High Point Rd. Lorton
www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/mas.shtml#
703-339-2385 or 703-339-2380 (visitor center)
masonneck@dcr.virginia.gov
The park's visitor center was expanded in 2010 to include a new exhibit room, gift shop and meeting room. There are several exhibits in the center, and with a view of Belmont Bay. Visitor center staff can answer questions and provide information on park trails, facilities and local points of interest. Pond study, bird watching, canoe trips, nature walks and talks, and GPS adventures are just a few of the exciting programs offered by park rangers.

Regional Parks

BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park & Atlantis Waterpark

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville
www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run/
www.atlantisbullrun.com/
703-631-0552
Main park open all year for picnicking, hiking and family camping. Bull Run Public Shooting Center open all year. Group Camping open daily Jan. 7 through Nov. 11. Mini and disc golf open April through October. Hours vary. Atlantis Waterpark features pools, a giant dumping bucket, waterslides, and fun-filled activities for all ages. Atlantis is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, and is a member of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority family of Waterparks. Neptune Reef snack bar sells food, beverages and sweets.

CR Cameron Run Regional Park/Great Waves Waterpark

4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria
www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron_run/
www.greatwaveswaterpark.com/
703-960-0767
Cameron Run Regional Park offers a variety of recreation facilities in an urban area, including Great Waves Water Park. Catch a wave in the wave pool, twist and turn down four-story water slides, take a plunge down speed slides, play with friends in the shallow waters of the play

pool. The park also features a deluxe miniature golf course, a nine-station batting cage, picnic shelters, and a special events pavilion.

CH Carlyle House Historic Park

121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle_house_historic_park/
703-549-2997
The historic Carlyle House was completed in 1753 by British merchant John Carlyle for his bride, Sarah Fairfax of Belvoir, member of one of the most prestigious families in colonial Virginia. Their home quickly became a center of social and political life in Alexandria and gained a foothold in history when British General Braddock made the mansion his headquarters in 1755. On the National Register of Historic Places, Carlyle House is architecturally unique in Alexandria as the only stone, 18th-century Palladian-style house. Daily tours of the house, programs for schoolchildren, special events, exhibits and lectures explore the life and times of John Carlyle in pre-Revolutionary Alexandria. The site may be rented in the evenings for private functions and weddings.

FH Fountainhead Regional Park

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/fountainhead/
703-250-9124
The observation deck of the Marina Building at Fountainhead commands a spectacular view of the widest point of the Occoquan Reservoir. Summer activities include catfish tournaments, children's fishing tournament, paddleboat tours and more.

HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton
www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock_overlook/
800-877-0954; 571-281-3556;
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education. Programs at Hemlock Overlook are open to the public and groups by reservation. Only the hiking and horse

trails may be used without prior arrangement.

MBG Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna
www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark_botanical_gardens/
703-255-3631
This 95-acre complex of large ornamental display gardens and unique native plant collections is open year round and include walking trails, lakes, more than 20 varieties of cherry trees, irises, peonies, an extensive shade garden, native wildflowers, gazebos, birds, butterflies, seasonal blooms and foliage. The Atrium's indoor tropical garden setting is a popular meeting, reception, wedding and workshop location. Interpretive displays accompany a restored 18th-century cabin.

OR Occoquan Regional Park

9751 Ox Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/occoquan/
703-690-2121
This park offers 400 acres of recreational space and a touch of the past with its historic brick kilns and the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. Park lands, trails and associated waters are part of the Fairfax Cross-County Trail. Kayak rentals. One hour Tour Boat Rides on the Occoquan River to Belmont Bay and back. Offered Saturdays noon-5 p.m., Sunday 1-8 p.m., April 2 through Nov. 27. \$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under, under age 4 are free.

PB Pohick Bay Regional Park & Pirates Cove Waterpark

6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/
www.piratescovepohick.com
703-339-6102
Pohick Bay is located on the Potomac River, 25 miles south of the nation's capital. The boat launch facility is one of only three public access points to the Potomac River in northern Virginia. Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats and jon boats for rent on the weekends, as well as family and group camping, hiking, picnic areas and a large play area for children. The park offers one of the largest, outdoor freeform pools on the east coast. Pohick Bay Regional Park, located on Mason Neck Peninsula is an ecologically fragile land that shelters an abundance of wildlife, including the bald eagle. Pirates Cove Waterpark is located at Pohick Bay Regional Park. Visitors can cool off under the 300-gallon dumping bucket, fire the water cannons and splash down the waterslide or search for buried treasure at Buccaneer Beach sand play area. Pirates Cove

Sources: National Park Service, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Virginia State Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority. Map courtesy of Fairfax County Park Authority. Designed & compiled by Jean Card and Laurence Foong. Photos by Renée Ruggles.





also features picnic pavilions, a deck for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Captain's Galley snack bar features food, beverages and sweets. Pirates Cove is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

PB Pohick Bay Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay_golf_course
703-339-8585

This scenic golf course is located on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Lorton. Pohick Bay's practice facility features a driving range with practice putting and chipping greens, and lessons from PGA pros. A full-service pro shop features an array of name-brand golf clubs, equipment and apparel. Other services include club making, custom club fitting, regripping, reshafing and tournament coordinating.

PO Potomac Overlook Regional Park & Nature Center

2845 Marcey Road, Arlington, VA 22207
www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook/
703-528-5406

On the Potomac Palisades in north Arlington, Potomac Overlook offers 70 acres of peaceful woodland, trails, educational gardens, a small picnic area and a Nature Center. The Nature Center features brand new exhibits called the "Energerium," offering visitors a fun and accessible way to learn energy basics and ways they can help create sustainable energy solutions. The Nature Center also houses live animals and natural history exhibits.

SR Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy_run/
703-690-4392

The park is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice, and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Only shells and other boats authorized by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club canoe, kayak and crew athletes.

UH Upton Hill Regional Park & Ocean Dunes Waterpark

6060 Wilson Blvd., Arlington
www.nvrpa.org/park/upton_hill/
www.oceanduneswaterpark.com/
703-534-3437 or UptonHill@nvrpa.org

Upton Hill Regional Park offers visitors a wooded oasis in the heart of the most densely populated area of Northern Virginia. A large outdoor water-park complex is a sparkling attraction in this wooded, urban park, which straddles the boundary line between Arlington and Fairfax counties. The deluxe miniature golf course boasts one of the longest mini golf holes in the world; the batting cages include nine baseball and softball cages. The park is open every day for hiking, picnicking, playing on the playground and enjoying the outdoors. Located within Upton Hill Regional Park, Ocean Dunes is loaded with fun features for adults and children.

Arts Center

LAC Workhouse Arts Center

9601 Ox Road, Lorton
www.lortonarts.org
703-584-2900

The Workhouse Arts Center consists of seven studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Center. Visitors are encouraged to interact with artists. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including theater, film institute, musical and dance performances. The education department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering classes and workshops in a variety of disciplines. Future plans for the Workhouse include an event center, amphitheater, Workhouse Theatre, restaurants, apartments, music barn and garden/horticultural area. Other buildings on site, yet to be renovated, may provide for other activities such as a visitors center, a blacksmith shop, theatre scene shops and rehearsal space.

Major Fairfax County Parks

BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
volleyball, driving range, 18 hole, par 3, minigolf, trails, playground, campgrounds, fishing
883.4 acres, multiple resource park



CJP Clemyjontri Park

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean
fitness, picnic areas and playgrounds
18.6 acres, special purpose park

ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

5040 Walney Road, Chantilly
baseball, soccer/football (unlit), basketball (unlit), community center, nature center, amphitheater, trails
650 acres, multiple resource park

FPF Frying Pan Farm Park

2717 West Ox Road, Herndon
historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, open areas, playground
135.3 acres, multiple resource park

BSG Green Spring Gardens

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria
Community Center, historic structure, biking/hiking trails, open areas, gardens
30.9 acres, special purpose park

HPP Hidden Pond Park

8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield
tennis (lit), nature center, amphitheater, hiking/nature trails, playground, fishing
25.6 acres, community park



HMP Huntley Meadows Park

3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria
nature center, historic structure, biking/hiking/nature trails, observation tower, boardwalk
1444.8 acres, natural resource park

LAP Lake Accotink Park

7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield
basketball, volleyball, minigolf, trails, picnic
448.1 acres, multiple resource park

LFP Lake Fairfax Park

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit), amphitheater, carousel, campground, tour boat, picnic shelters
479 acres, multiple resource park

FRA Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia
softball, soccer/football, tennis, basketball, volleyball, trails, treehouse, sprayground, accessible playground
138 acres, district park

MDP Mason District Park

6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit/lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), shuffleboard, dog park, amphitheater, biking/hiking/fitness
121.2 acres, district park

NWP Nottoway Park

9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna
baseball (lit), soccer/football (lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), trails, picnic
90.9 acres, district park

RBP Riverbend Park

8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls
nature center, historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, picnic areas, craft room
411.2 acres, multiple resource park

SRN Scotts Run Nature Preserve

7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean
historic structure, historic/hiking/nature trails, fishing
384.3 acres, natural resource park

SRD South Run District

7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield
baseball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, equestrian, playground, swimming
196 acres, district park

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

8100 Braddock Road, Annandale
softball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, biking, fitness trail, skate park
292.6 acres, multiple resource park



PARKS

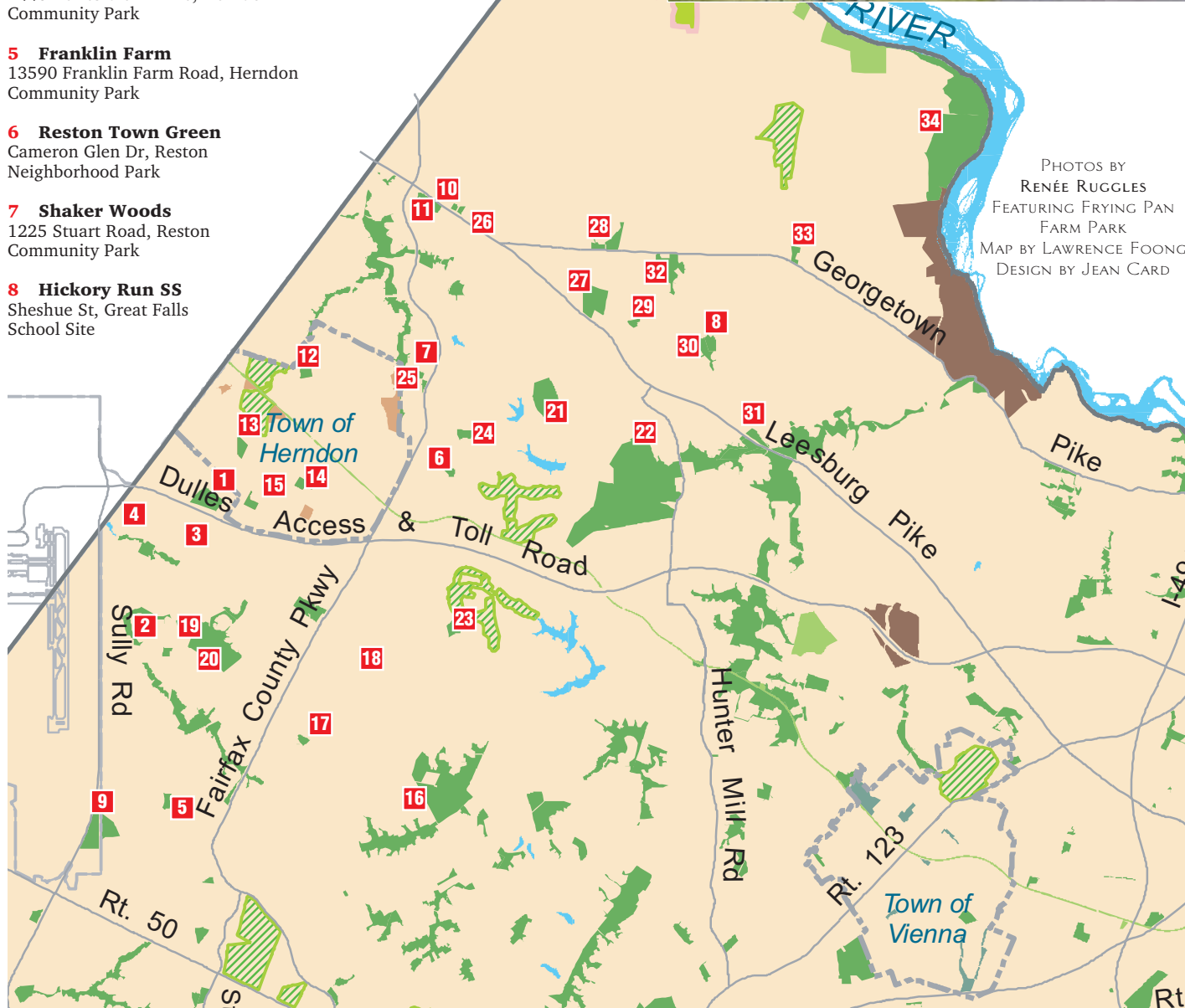
A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS IN THE GREAT FALLS, RESTON & HERNDON AREAS

Map Number Park Name

Address, City
Property Class

- 1 Hutchison ES**
13209 Parcher Ave., Herndon
Community Park
- 2 Coppermine Crossing SS**
2744 Cooper Creek Rd, Herndon
School Site
- 3 Arrowbrooke**
2351 Field Point Road, Herndon
Community Park
- 4 Dulles Corner**
2446 Dulles View Drive, Herndon
Community Park
- 5 Franklin Farm**
13590 Franklin Farm Road, Herndon
Community Park
- 6 Reston Town Green**
Cameron Glen Dr, Reston
Neighborhood Park
- 7 Shaker Woods**
1225 Stuart Road, Reston
Community Park
- 8 Hickory Run SS**
Sheshue St, Great Falls
School Site

- 15 Chandon**
900 Palmer Drive, Herndon
Community Park
- 16 Fred Crabtree**
2801 Fox Mill Road, Herndon
District Park
- 17 Franklin Oaks**
2961 Franklin Oaks Drive, Herndon
Neighborhood Park
- 18 Stratton Woods**
2431 Fox Mill Road, Reston
Community Park



PHOTOS BY
RENÉE RUGGLES
FEATURING FRYING PAN
FARM PARK
MAP BY LAWRENCE FOONG
DESIGN BY JEAN CARD



- 9 Sully Historic**
3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly
Cultural Resource Park
- 10 Dranesville Tavern**
11919 Leesburg Pike, Herndon
Cultural Resource Park
- 11 Grand Hamptons**
1081 Safa Street, Herndon
Neighborhood Park
- 12 Stanton**
910 Third Street, Herndon
Community Park
- 13 Alabama Drive**
1100 Alabama Drive, Herndon
Community Park
- 14 Bruin**
415 Van Buren Street, Herndon
Community Park

- 19 Floris School Site**
2621 Centreville Road, Herndon
Community Park
- 20 Frying Pan Farm**
2717 West Ox Road, Herndon
Multiple Resource Park
- 21 Baron Cameron**
11300 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston
District Park
- 22 Lake Fairfax**
1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston
Multiple Resource Park
- 23 South Lakes Drive**
11851 South Lakes Drive, Reston
Community Park
- 24 Reston North**
1635 Reston Parkway, Reston
Community Park

- 25 Stuart Road**
12001 Lake Newport Road, Reston
Community Park
- 26 Holly Knolls**
1010 Redberry Court, Great Falls
Neighborhood Park
- 27 Great Falls Nike**
1089 Utterback Store Road, Great Falls
District Park
- 28 Windermere**
11000 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls
Community Park
- 29 Lockmeade**
1104 Riva Ridge Drive, Great Falls
Community Park
- 30 Lexington Estates**
10401 Sheshue Street, Great Falls
Neighborhood Park

- 31 Colvin Run Mill Site**
10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls
Cultural Resource Park
- 32 The Turner Farm**
925 Springvale Road, Great Falls
Community Park
- 33 Great Falls Grange**
9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls
Community Park
- 34 Riverbend**
8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls
Multiple Resource Park



Year-round Fun in the Area

ONGOING

Take a Break Concert Series. 7-9 p.m. Thursdays/ Aug. 25 - Sept. 1 Lake Anne Plaza, 11404 Washington Plaza W, Reston. On Thursdays, take a break with this outdoor concert series. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/take-a-break.shtml for weekly lineup.

JamBrew. Every Friday in September, beginning Sept. 2. 6-10 p.m. Town Green, 777 Lynn St. Herndon. Outdoor music festival. <http://jambrew.com/>.

Zoosday 4 - 7 p.m. through Sept. 27 11900 Market St, Reston, VA 20190 Reston Town Center. Enjoy an award-winning animal and miniature animal petting zoo with hands-on, educational experiences that children and their grownups will cherish! Kid-friendly giveaways plus activities like Legos and Play-Doh. Free. Rain or shine." <https://www.restontowncenter.com/event/zoosday-927/>

Mr. Knick Knack Mondays, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. through October. Reston Town Center Pavilion 11900 Market St., Reston, VA. Unique, heart-centered music for kids and their grown-ups. Every Monday through October, presented by Reston Town Center. Free. restontowncenter.com

Dog Days of Summer 4 - 7 p.m. Every Wednesday through Sept. 28. Reston Town Center Pavilion 11900 Market St., Reston, VA. Dogs and owners can frolic in the Pavilion as it is transformed weekly into an off-leash play area. Treats, toys, areas to cool off, pet friendly giveaways, and more! Free.

August 2016

FRIDAY/AUG. 26

Herndon Friday Night Live! The Vigilantes 6:30 p.m. 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Listen to great music on Friday nights during the summer. Named BEST of NoVA 2012 by Northern Virginia Magazine as well as a "Must See" while in Fairfax County. The Vigilantes are a fun and exciting cover band that plays up and down the east coast performing modern top 40 dance and all your favorite classics. This band brings the party to every show!

Visit herndonrocks.com/schedule.php for more.

SATURDAY/AUG 27

Reston Concerts on the Town 7:30 - 10 p.m. at Reston Town Center Pavilion
Jukebox Revue: The Originals, Leonard, Coleman & Blunt, former lead singers of The Temptations, The Platters & The Drifters Doo-wop. Rain or shine. Cost: Free

TUESDAY/AUG. 30

Lake Anne Summer Film Festival: Jazz on a Summer's Day - 1960 8 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Movie Kicks Off Jazz Week at Lake Anne leading up to Lake Anne's Annual Jazz Festival on September 5th. The free outdoor festival will take place each month on selected Sunday's and will feature some great flicks from classic to comedy. Grab a date, the family or a group of friends, bring the lawn chairs and a picnic and enjoy flicks under the stars.

TUESDAY/ AUG. 30 - MONDAY SEPT. 5

First ever Lake Anne Jazz Week. 1 - 8 p.m. The week will feature a variety of jazz themed events from live music, merchant activities, to a featured film part of Lake Anne's ongoing Summer Film Festival series. The week will close out with the Plaza's popular **Annual Jazz & Blues Festival**, on September 5th. The Jazz & Blue festival is a free, family friendly, all-day event that will showcase a variety of talented regional and national jazz & blues artists. Visit <http://lakeanneplaza.com/event/9th-annual-lake-anne-jazz-festival/>

September 2016

MONDAY/SEPT. 5

Herndon Labor Day Festival. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The Mark H. Taiko School presents Taiko Drums or Japanese drumming on the Global Stage at Lake Anne Plaza during the Reston Multicultural Festival Sept. 30, 2015.

Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Downtown Herndon celebrates Labor Day with an annual festival - great music, a craft show, food, wineries, micro-brews and culinary demonstrations will all be there. Visit: <http://www.herndon-va.gov/>.

FRIDAY/SATURDAY/SEPT. 9-10

ChalkFest At Reston Town Center Friday noon - 11 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 11900 Market St., Reston, VA. All are invited to create chalk drawings on Market Street. The event is open to all. There will be prizes for professional artists, amateur artists, families and kids, in addition to the "Audience Choice Awards". The Festival is one of the area's most unique and fun events that attracts a diverse and motivated audience and promotes public art in Reston. Participants are invited to show off their creativity and realize chalk drawings on Market Street, in the heart of Reston Town Center. Visit: <http://www.publicartreston.org/get-involved/special-events/chalkfest-at-reston-town-center/>

SATURDAY/SEPT 10-WEDNESDAY/SEPT 21, 2016

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Online registration open. Various venues around Northern Virginia. Events include badminton, volleyball, cycling, a 5k road race, and many more. \$12 per person. Visit www.nvso.us for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 11, 2016

Reston Triathlon. 7 a.m. Lake Audubon, Twin Branches Road, Reston. Swim, bike and run in the "Reston World Championships." Visit <http://www.restontriathlon.org/tri/>

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

Dulles Day Plane Pull. 10:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m. at Dulles International Airport, Dulles. The 2016 Dulles Day Family Festival & Plane Pull is a full day of excitement with airplane and auto exhibits, the children's zone and bus pull, varied displays and activities, vendors, food and entertainment. Visit www.planepull.com

SATURDAY/SEPT. 24

Reston Multicultural Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. The Reston Multicultural Festival celebrates all the entertainment, dress, food, and cultural treasures from all over the world that are all here in Reston. Rain or shine. Free. www.restoncommunitycenter.com

SUNDAY/SEPT. 25, 2016

Walk to End Alzheimer's. 10 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Walk and fundraise to further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Visit http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=7382&pg=entry.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 25

NatureFest. 1-5 p.m. Runnymede Park, 195 Herndon Parkway, Herndon. Explore various nature stations throughout the park including butterflies, bees, life in the meadow, web of life and much more with live animal shows



PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

Chef Roslyn "Ros" Clark flips an omelet during a cuisine presentation at the 25th Herndon Labor Day Festival last year.

throughout the day. NatureFest 2016 will feature: Live animals, both 4-footed and winged, bees and butterflies, life in the stream, creating habitats for wildlife, arts and crafts, nature olympics, and that's just for starters! Check back for further information. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

October 2016

SATURDAY/OCT. 1

OktoBrewFest 12-10 p.m. 777 Lynn St. Herndon, Virginia. Food, beer, music, art, health. Visit <http://jambrew.com/>

SUNDAY/OCT. 2, 2016

HernDOG Bark Bash. 12-3 p.m. Bready Park, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. HernDOG Bark Bash is a free event for dog lovers with three hours of four-legged fun. The event will feature agility demonstrations, owner and dog team contests, adoptions, an off leash area and wide variety of dog themed vendors. Entry to HernDOG Bark Bash is free but fees may apply to vendor products or services. Friendly, leashed, and vaccinated dogs, and their owners, are welcome.

MONDAY/OCT. 3

Rescue Reston 2nd Annual Golf Tournament 1 p.m. at Reston National Golf Course 11875 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston 20191. Come out for a great day and support Rescue Reston at our Second Annual Golf Classic event! Enjoy 9 holes of golf, dinner, awards, and prizes. Contributions are tax deductible. Fees: Individual Player \$85 Foursome \$340. Visit: <http://www.rescuereston.org/golf/>

SATURDAY/OCT. 8

Oktoberfest Reston. noon-11 p.m. Sunday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Enjoy food and drinks, live entertainment, a carnival and a chili cook-off at Northern Virginia's largest fall festival. Visit www.oktoberfestreston.com.

SUNDAY/OCT.16

The Crohn's & Colitis Take Steps Walk. Registration opens 3 p.m. Walk begins 4 p.m. Reston Town Center 11900 Market Street Reston, Virginia, 20190. Visit: <https://www.restontowncenter.com/event/northern-virginia-take-steps-walk-crohns-colitis/>

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 19-25

Washington West Film Festival. Reston Town Center 11900 Market Street Reston, Virginia, 20190. A unique cinematic experience presenting fine independent films screened or premiered in three in-competition categories: dramatic features, documentary features, and short films. Schedules and tickets: www.wffilmfest.com

FRIDAY/OCT. 28, 2016

Spooktacular. 6:30-8 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Enjoy ghoulish games, a spooky craft and a children's show. Fee: \$10/child in advance or \$15/child on



PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins rode an antique fire truck in the 2014 Reston Holiday Parade at Reston Town Center. The parade has been an annual Reston tradition on the day after Thanksgiving.

day of event. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

November 2016

TUESDAY/NOV.1

SPANCHATS 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library 11925 Bowman Towne Dr, Reston, VA 20190. Join our ongoing Spanish conversation group. All levels from beginner to fluent are welcome. Age(s): Adults. Call 703-689-2700 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/rr/>

TUESDAY/NOV. 8, 2018

Election Day. General election. Visit www.sbe.virginia.gov/ and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm

SATURDAY/NOV. 19

Turkey Trot 5k Race. Registration 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Herndon Community Center Gym 814 Ferndale Ave, Herndon, VA 20170. Race begins at 4 p.m. Runners and walkers, take your mark and get ready to conquer a fun 5K trail course, which winds around the Herndon Centennial Golf Course. Visit: <http://www.herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/turkey-trot-5k-race>

FRIDAY/NOV. 25, 2016

Reston Holiday Parade. 11 a.m. with Macy's-style balloons, musicians, dancers, antique cars, characters, community groups, dignitaries, special guest emcees, and much more. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Reston Holiday Parade on Market Street, tree lighting at Fountain Square, and much more through the day of charity and cheer. Rain or shine.

December 2016

SUNDAY/DEC.4

Book Sale 1 p.m. Reston Regional Library 11925 Bowman Towne Dr, Reston, VA 20190. Start your shopping early. Come browse and buy - we have lots of gift-quality books. Call 703-689-2700 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/rr/>

SUNDAY/DEC. 4

Holiday Arts and Crafts Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. Wreaths, quilts, jewelry, Christmas ornaments, decorations, original artwork, photography, stained glass and more. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

SATURDAY/DEC. 17.

A Storybrook Holiday Celebration. 10-11:30 a.m. at Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. Bring your child to enjoy some holiday fun. Cost includes craft projects, a visit with Santa and a reading of a holiday story by a special guest. \$9/child.



OUR CONGRESSWOMAN

BARBARA COMSTOCK

GETTING RESULTS FOR US



For 35 years, Barbara Comstock has lived, worked, raised a family, started a business and served as both Delegate and Congresswoman in the 10th District. Whether it was her work as a senior Justice Department official, a small businesswoman, a Mom at home, a senior aide and counsel in Congress, a Member of the House of Delegates or now as our Congresswoman, Barbara knows the challenges facing the 10th District because she has lived them with us and fought for us to get results on our priorities.

- › Advance breakthroughs in 21st century cures for chronic disease such as cancer, Alzheimer’s and diabetes.
- › A 5 year Transportation Bill, signed into law, which will help relieve traffic congestion, provide more transportation funds, and make Metro safer and more accountable.
- › A \$600 billion tax relief package, signed into law, for families, small businesses and our technology and defense businesses.
- › Increased defense and cyber funding to protect us from terrorism.
- › Human Trafficking legislation, signed into law, that cracks down on this growing crime and protects women and children.
- › Started two Heroin Task Forces to battle the heroin scourge in our communities and advancing legislation to increase education, treatment and prevention.
- › Started the “10th Congressional District Young Women Leadership Program” for junior high and high school young women.

“As your Congresswoman, I will continue to work tirelessly to strengthen our national security and protect us from terrorism; advance breakthroughs in 21st century cures for chronic diseases such as cancer, Alzheimer’s and diabetes; promote a 21st century economy with more opportunity and higher wage jobs; provide transportation funding and solutions; and fight the growing problem of human trafficking and heroin abuse in our community.”

Barbara Comstock

703.731.4466 / info@barbaracomstockforcongress.com / www.BarbaraComstockForCongress.com

Paid for by Comstock for Congress